

Religious Education Newsletter Summer 2013

Introduction

It is some time since a newsletter was sent to all schools in the county with up to date news about RE. In a changing landscape, SACRE members felt it was important to communicate important message about RE to schools, and to ensure teachers were aware of resources and CPD opportunities available to them. In future issues, we plan to invite SACRE members to share something about their work and how they support schools.

**The newsletter will always be two sides long!
We hope this means it will be accessible to everyone.**

News from Norfolk SACRE

Norfolk SACRE held their last meeting in February and will shortly be holding one of two meetings this term. In the last meeting they discussed GCSE results in Norfolk, and approved a new development plan. SACRE have also applied to the National Association of SACREs to fund a project called 'Perspectives' to explore pupil views of RE.



RE Quality Mark

At least five schools in Norfolk have now gained this quality mark, and the application process is now open to all schools. Kathryn will share something about how to apply at the professional network meetings. In the meantime, find out more and view the gallery and case studies of good practice at www.reqm.org

Culham St Gabriels: Leaders for Changing RE

This year's annual Culham St Gabriel's RE teacher conference will focus on RE leadership. It will be held from 28 – 29 September at Wokefield Park, Reading. Further details can be found at <http://www.cstg.org.uk/events/leadership-weekend-2013/>

There is no cost for delegates – Culham St Gabriel's meets all conference costs and accommodation fees. All you need to do is get to Wokefield (buses from Reading train station will be arranged free of charge) and pay for any incidental expenses , such as drinks at the bar.

Art in Heaven competition- 10th Anniversary

Teachers are invited to enter pupils' creative RE work in the 10th Anniversary Art in Heaven competition, part of NATRE's 'Spirited Arts' strategy for more creative RE. This year's themes include Prayer: How and Why?; Windows on the Soul; and Jerusalem by William Blake. There will be about 40 prizes of £20 to winners, and certificates for all whose work is received, as well as up to three big prizes (£100) for pupils aged 16 – 19. Entries can be sent in until 31st July – more details are available at www.natre.org.uk/spiritedarts

New RE:ONLINE is here!

Culham St Gabriel's is excited to announce that over the last year a major redevelopment of RE:ONLINE has been going on. This has involved a rebranding and complete restructuring of the site. See www.reonline.org.uk. Kathryn is hosting the 'RE Café' in June so come and have an on line chat!

The site is divided up into five main sections:

1. Learning – Practical ideas, resource and inspiration
2. Leading – Everything for the subject leader.
3. Knowing – Preparing to teach, continuing to learn
4. Assessing – A teachers' toolkit for pupils' progress.
5. Supporting – Access and contribute to expertise in the RE community

National RE Subject Review

Whilst we have a new locally agreed syllabus, there is a national review of RE taking place at the moment. The final version of the Review's Phase 1 Expert Panel Report is now available on the REC website, as is the evaluation report. The next phase involves two task groups, one looking at aims and curriculum and the other at the wider context of RE, including assessment and examinations. Please visit the RE Subject Review section of the REC website. www.religiouseducationcouncil.org

RETHINKRE

This new website and its associated campaign to galvanise support for RE was launched in February and has attracted wide interest and a large number of sign-ups. Its strapline is 'We want to see every young person in every school given access to good quality RE' and it aims to draw the attention of people beyond the usual circles of RE supporters, as part of a wider campaign to promote better public understanding of the nature and purpose of school RE. For more details see the campaign website at www.rethinkRE.org

Instant CPD for your staff meeting

NATRE have produced a series of videos showing good RE. They are now available on line at http://natre.org.uk/good_learning/ so why not use them in a staff meeting to stimulate discussion about what makes for good or outstanding RE...?

Dates for your diary:

24th April 4pm: Professional network- focus on enquiry in RE

6th June 1.30pm: Developing your RE curriculum

19th June 4pm: Professional network- focus on assessment in RE

Please book using the online booking system.

Kathryn Wright

Adviser to Norfolk SACRE